

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /073 W  
-----004983 022218Z /61

R 020350Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8840  
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 5308

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, IR, AF  
SUBJECT: NEW AFGHAN AMBASSADOR TO IRAN IS ANOTHER HIGH-RANKING  
PARCHAMIST

REF: TEHRAN 6250 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE LITTLE TO ADD TO THE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON THE YOUTHFUL DR. NAJIB, WHO FORMERLY USED THE NAME SYED NAJIBULLAH, CONTAINED IN THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS APPOINTMENT AS AFGHAN ENVOY TO TEHRAN (REFTEL). HE REPORTEDLY IS ONLY ONE YEAR OUT OF MEDICAL SCHOOL, AND WAS THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERIOR FOR A FEW WEEKS FOLLOWING THE APRIL 27 REVOLUTION. IN THE SUBSEQUENT JOCKEYING FOR POSITIONS (WHICH OBVIOUSLY IS CONTINUING), NAJIB, A MEMBER OF THE FORMER PARCHAM WING OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF AFGHANISTAN, BECAME A "SPECIAL ASSISTANT" TO REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAQI, AN APPOINTMENT THAT WAS NEVER MADE PUBLIC.

2. NAJIB'S SELECTION FOR TEHRAN IS UNQUESTIONABLY PART OF THE ONGOING PURGE OF PARCHAMISTS FROM THE UPPER LEVELS OF  
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THE NEW REGIME'S POLITICAL LEADERSHIP. OF THE SIX AFGHAN AMBASSADORS FOR WHOM AGREEMENT HAS DEFINITELY BEEN ASKED, NOT ONE IS A KNOWN KHALQIST, WHILE FIVE ARE CONFIRMED PARCHAMISTS. THE FUTURE OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER BABRAK (LEADER OF THE FORMER PARCHAM) TOPS THE LIST OF RUMORS IN KABUL, AND THE FAVORITE VERSION NOW IS THAT HE HAS REFUSED TO ACCEPT A POST ABROAD AND WILL REMAIN IN KABUL COME WHAT MAY. IN THIS

CONNECTION, WE CONTINUE TO SEE NO SIGNS THAT THIS PARTICULAR  
EPISODE HAS RESULTED IN ANY HEIGHTENED SECURITY MEASURES IN THE  
CAPITAL, BUT THE REGIME'S SENSE OF URGENCY IN REQUESTING HOST  
COUNTRY AGREEMENT FOR THESE AMBASSADORS COULD INDICATE THAT  
TARAKI AND HIS COLLEAGUES PREFER TO HAVE THEIR RIVALS OUT OF  
AFGHANISTAN PRONTO. AN IRANIAN DIPLOMAT TOLD US THAT THREE DAYS  
AFTER NAJIB'S NAME WAS SUBMITTED TO THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT,  
AMBASSADOR DAVOUDI WAS CALLED TO THE MFA AND ASKED, "WHY THE DELAY?"  
THE GOI APPARENTLY ACCEPTED THE INEVITABLE, AND GRANTED  
ARGEMENT WITHIN TWO DAYS.  
AMSTUTZ

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978KABUL05308  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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